

On April 3, 2006, the Equine Drug Research Council recommended the following advisory to the Kentucky Horse Racing Authority. The KHRA approved the advisory on April 17, 2006.

#### NAPROXEN ADVISORY

The drug rule recently promulgated by the Kentucky Horse Racing Authority (“KHRA”) (810 KAR 1:018) authorizes the administration of one (1) of three (3) non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS) not less than 24 hours before the time a horse is to race. These three NSAIDS are Phenylbutazone, Flunixin, and Ketoprofen. The drug rule also states that all other NSAIDS must be administered AT LEAST forty-eight (48) hours before the race in which the horse is entered.

The KHRA wants to advise you that administering Naproxen, an NSAID, to a horse can be problematic. Recent studies indicate that this drug accumulates in tissue, is metabolized and excreted extremely slowly, and can remain in a horse at an elevated residual level even when Naproxen is discontinued more than 48 hours before the race the horse is to run. Therefore, the KHRA thinks it prudent to advise horsemen, veterinarians and owners to discontinue use of Naproxen AT LEAST one hundred twenty (120) hours before the race in which the horse is entered.

Given the problematic nature of Naproxen, the fact that the U.S. equine version of Naproxen has been off the market more than twelve (12) years, and that newer NSAIDS for equine use are readily available, horsemen, veterinarians and owners may wish to consider alternative NSAIDS.

As the KHRA becomes aware of significant new information about this and other drugs, we will share the information with you as part of our ongoing efforts to keep you fully informed.